

Rules governing public speaking at Parish Council meetings

Meetings of the Parish Council are not public meetings, but members of the public do have a statutory right to attend meetings of the Council as observers. However, as part of its community engagement, the Parish Council sets out a time for public participation near the beginning of its meetings when members of the public are invited to speak at the authorisation of the Chair.

The 'Public Speaking' session is limited to 10 minutes

If more than one member of the public wishes to speak on the same topic then it is recommended that they nominate one person to speak on their behalf. This will avoid duplication of points and make the best use of the public participation period. Other speakers can then briefly state any further points that have not already been covered.

'Public Speaking' is NOT a discussion. Speakers shall speak in turn one at a time.

If Councillors wish to ask questions for clarification they may do so through the Chair.

All statements, questions and responses must be related to the facts of the matter and not be personal in nature. There should be no reference to personal views or opinions on any person and/or business.

Once 'Public Speaking' is finished there shall be no further public participation in the meeting.

If the item in question is on the agenda it will then be discussed by the Council members at the given point in the agenda. Please note that members of the public will not be permitted to enter into this discussion.

Thank you for respecting these rules,

EDALE PARISH COUNCIL